

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

26 AUG 1952

Honorable Carl Hayden
United States Senate

Dear Senator Hayden:

It was indeed a pleasure to have had an opportunity to confer with you in regard to the future status of Fort Huachuca, Arizona, and to obtain from you your views in regard to the continued utilization of this installation.

As I indicated during the course of our discussion, Fort Huachuca is currently being utilized for the activation and training of special units (aviation engineer battalions) to be eventually assigned to the Air Force. Due to a reduced requirement on the part of the Air Force, no further units will be required. Consequently, as each special unit completes its training it must be moved to sites where their services are required by the Air Force. As a result, this fall will see the last such unit phased out, and there will be no further requirement for unit training of this type at Fort Huachuca. During the interim, the Department of the Army will continue to survey its requirements for this station, as it has and is doing in connection with all other Department of the Army installations, to determine whether other units can appropriately utilize this facility consistent with the necessary economy of operation.

As you know, during World War II, this installation which at that time comprised some 76,500 acres of land were actively used by the Department of the Army as an Infantry Training Center. Subsequent to World War II, some 32,700 acres of land were deeded to the State of Arizona for conservation of wild life and some 40,500 acres and improvements thereon were conveyed to the State of Arizona for National Guard use. These lands were turned over to the State of Arizona under a recapture clause.

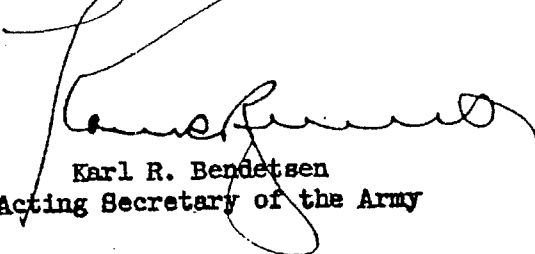
As a result of the Korean situation, which necessitated the reactivation of Fort Huachuca, some 48,800 acres of land were recaptured from the State of Arizona. Some \$5,900,000 were expended for the rehabilitation of this facility.

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You may be assured that the Department of the Army is very cognizant of the facilities afforded by this installation. Therefore, there is no plan to declare this facility surplus to the requirements of the Army, and it will be retained for possible future use.

I appreciate having had the opportunity to discuss this matter with you, and while it is not possible for me to furnish you with definite information concerning the future utilization of this station, I wish to again assure you that the studies currently underway within the Department of the Army will consider all factors which may have a bearing on the use of Fort Huachuca.

Sincerely yours,



Karl R. Bendetsen
Acting Secretary of the Army